1	2	3	4	5
41.	Pratibha Devi D/o Bhagwati Prasad Pal, 7yrs.	112, Ganesh Colony, Nikol Road, Odhav, Ahmedabad	Shri Bhagwatiprasad Pal	112, Ganesh Colony, Nicol Road, Udhav, Ahmedabad.
42.	Priti D/o Bhagwati Prasad Pal, 3 yrs	112, Ganesh Colony, Nikol Road, Odhav, Ahmedabad.	Shri Bhagwatiprasad Pal	112, Ganesh Colony, Nicol Road, Udhav, Ahmedabad.
43.	Sushila Devi W/o Bhagwati Prasad Pal, 25 yrs.	112, Ganesh Colony, Nikol Road, Odhav, Ahmedabad.	Shri Bhagwatiprasad Pal	112, Ganesh Colony, Nicol Road, Udhav, Ahmedabad.
44.	Shailendra Kumar Jamna Prasad Mali, 28 yrs	VilUsurtbaxKheda, Tal Purava, Distt. Unnav, U.R	Jamnaprasad Hariprasad Mali	Ishwari Baksh, Kheda Hall, Village & Post-Hiloli, Thana-Maurawan, District-Unnao, UP.

Circular trains service between Kanniyakumari and Delhi

1135. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received a proposal to introduce a circular train service between Kanniyakumari and Delhi connecting major cities and pilgrimage centres; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) 6317/6318 Jammu Tawi-Kanniyakumari Himsagar Express (weekly) and 2641/2642 Nizamuddin-Kanniyakumari Thirukkural Express (weekly) are providing direct service between Delhi and Kanniyakumari. There is no proposal at present to introduce additional service between Delhi and Kanniyakumari.

Checking Rail Accidents

1136. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the effective steps proposed to be taken by Government

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

to improve railway system, increase efficiency in railways, increase the facilities for the passengers and remove the shortcomings in the railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The working of Indian Railways is kept under continuous and careful review to improve the railway system, increase efficiency as well as increase the facilities for the passengers and remove the shortcomings in the railways. The direction of initiatives and various steps to improve the system are indicated in the Corporate Safety Plan, the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07) and the Budget documents. Some of the important initiatives are as under:—

1. Strengthening of High Density Network.
2. Technological up-gradation of assets for improving efficiency, throughput and increasing average speed of trains.
3. Utilizing Information Technology for better customer interface.
4. Improving safety of operations by replacement of over-aged assets through Special Railway Safety Fund.
5. Reduction in energy bill by direct purchase of power from Central Generating Agencies and joint ventures with generating agencies for setting up power plants.
6. Mobilization of additional resources through private/public participation in railway projects
7. Increase in share of freight and passenger traffic.
8. Crew Friendly Driver's Cab and Brake Van.
9. Modernization of Electric Multiple Units and Electric Locos.
10. Provision of computer based centralized traffic control specially on heavily worked sections to improve safety & efficiency in train operation.
11. E-procurement.
12. Improvements to Claims Management.
13. Simplifiation of refund procedure.
14. Unreserved Ticketing System.
15. Improving Cleanliness.

16. Environment Friendly Toilet System

17. Better availability of rakes to the Customers.

18. Thrust on Export/Import traffic through Port connectivity.

19. Provision of continuous Track Circuiting and Automatic Block Signalling to enhance safety & augment line capacity.

20. Provision of Anti-Collision Device to prevent certain kinds of collisions.

21. Provision of Train Actuated Warning Device to warn road users about an approaching train.

Unmanned Railway Crossing

1137. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unmanned railway crossings continue to take a heavy toll of life and property;

(b) if so, the number of such accidents during the last three years and the current year so far, indicating details of the accidents and the toll of life taken thereby; and

(c) the concrete steps proposed to be taken to prevent such accidents and to man and equip these level crossing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The details of unmanned level crossing accidents on Indian Railways and the number of deaths and injuries in these accidents during the period 2001-2002 to 2003-2004 and the current year April-June, 2004, are as under:—

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04*	April-June, 2004*
Number of unmanned level crossing accidents	80	82	86	18
Killed	163	147	132	36
Injured	197	193	156	100

*Provisional figures